

Mr. Greg Lambousy
Louisiana State Museum
614 St. Ann
New Orleans, LA 70116

October 1, 2002

Dear Mr. Lambousy:

Following receipt of your September 19, 2002 letter we checked our extensive files on the Confederate Half Dollar die matter. J. Sanford Saltus in May 1922 gave the coin to the Louisiana Historical Society (rather than the Louisiana State Museum as you point out). The history of the die was written up in the Louisiana Historical Quarterly, Vol. 5, No. 4 (October 1922), Baton Rouge 1923, pp. 505-508 (see also pp. 498-499). There was one brass splashing at least struck from it in its damaged condition, but I don't know when.

When Henry Chapman of Philadelphia sold a "restrike" of the coin as Lot 762 of his November 17, 1932 sale he said that Saltus had "presented it to the City Museum in New Orleans". That is what must have distorted my memory about where it was donated as I did not check my extensive files before writing you.

Long ago in an effort to locate the die we and others inquired and I enclose a copy of our unanswered letter of February 12, 1963. Our prior letter of March 20, 1961 to the Society also went unanswered.

As to photographing our piece please advise me if you wish color or black & white; whether you wish film or digital; slides or prints or both and the number and size of any positive or digital prints. I believe it can be well done here for \$200 to \$275 depending on your choices. We will do our best to keep it as low as possible. I will be with the coin at all times during photography. We will wish to own any negatives, disc or CD of the images but we will lend them or it to you gratis at any future time for your use or you can keep a copy for your use.

We hope the foregoing suits your needs.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman